

Weekly Update September 7, 2021

The Select Board and School Committee will meet in joint session at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8 and Thursday, Sept. 9 at the Senior Center to interview eight candidates to fill a vacant seat on the School Committee. The meetings are open to the public although the audience will not be allowed to ask questions. The meetings will be carried on Facebook Live and will be recorded and available the next day.

The boards plan to meet on Sept. 15 to vote to fill the vacancy.

Town Administrator Jim Boudreau said water main work on Old Oaken Bucket Road is wrapping up with individual service connections. Once completed, the entire length of the roadway will be paved.

The next phase of the water main project is on Brook Street to Tilden Road. After that some smaller streets with two-inch mains will be tackled.

Regardless of the rainfall and reservoir levels, the town is still subject to a state-imposed water ban that starts each May. Area towns have the same restrictions. The water ban has nothing to do with amount of water on hand.

Water demand in town is down to 1.317 million gallons a day from 1.4 the previous week. Levels of manganese are slowly dropping with the cooler nights.

The pilot study at the water treatment plant is still ongoing and has two more weeks to run.

Boudreau said there were 29 new Covid cases over the past week, up from 17 the previous week. The town's 14-day positivity rate is 2.83 percent down from 3.06 percent.

There are no plans to enact a mask mandate in public buildings in Scituate at this time.

The town will share information about Covid-19 booster shots once the CDC provides details. Residents are encouraged to get Covid vaccinations to prevent serious illness.

The sidewalk along First Parish Road from Country Way to the Senior Center looks great as does the new sidewalk across the street that provides pedestrian access from the library and Central Park

Final paving is underway on the presidential streets off of Beaver Dam Road.

Once new paving is complete, the town will step up traffic enforcement as drivers then to speed up on newly paved roads.

The PJ Steverman in-line skating rink boards are being installed. Final installation of the surface is delayed due to supply issues.

The green filter system at Well 17A and Well 18B is good news for the water system as clean, filtered water will enter the system without iron and manganese. The back wash from 18B will settle in a sediment pool at Widows Walk and be used for golf course irrigation.

Lifeguards are no longer at the town beaches. Hurricane Larry is not expected to hit land but could cause increased surf and rip currents so swimmers should be extremely cautious.

The lunch program at the new Senior Center is a huge success with as many and 90 seniors participating. Lunches for \$5 are available Monday through Thursday. Please call 781-545-8722 and press 0 for the front desk to make a reservation.

The contractor is razing structures along the roadways at Cedar Point in preparation for paving that area. The project will be buttoned up by the end of the fall season.

The town has completed the purchase of land on the west side of Route 3A near Old Forge Road. Two other purchases are in the works, one in the harbor and one in North Scituate.

Students are back on the roads and sidewalks, so please be extra careful when driving. Remember, it is illegal to pass a school bus.

Supt. of Schools Bill Burkhead welcomed staff and students back to full-time, in-person learning, five days a week.

This year students will be celebrating “This is Our House.” The celebration affirms that schools are the students’ home away from home and provide a connection to each other and the community.

The school department will continue to monitor and respond to health and safety protocols. There is a strong health and safety plan in place. Visit: scituate.k12.ma.us for more details. The website includes a Covid page and should be a one-stop-shop for families.

The schools will hold a peaceful reflection honoring heroic service, unity and compassion, at 8:46 a.m. Friday (Sept. 10) in memory of all those lost on 9/11, those who were lost serving the country, and the 13 American servicemembers who perished in the recent suicide bombing in Afghanistan.

Burkhead gave a Sailor Shout Out to the custodial staff, maintenance workers and volunteer families who helped get the inside and the school grounds in great shape.